

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- **THIS SHABBOS!** 12th Grade Shabbos Party & Shalosh Seudos!
- Monday, May 27: Memorial Day, No School.
- Wednesday, May 29: Atzmi Session for Parents, 8-9 PM. Please RSVP to the School Office
- Wednesday, June 5 - Monday June 10: 9th-11th Grade Final Exams
- Monday, June 10, 7:30 PM: Graduation

MAZAL TOV:

- Mazal Tov to Yehoshua and Laya (Ely, '17) Gerstman on the birth of a daughter.

HIRSCH GOLDBERG, AND ALL THE
HOSTAGES,

230

ARE IN OUR HEARTS AND TEFILOS.
PLEASE CONSIDER SAYING PEREK 140
OF TEHILLIM AS A ZECHUS FOR OUR
BROTHERS & SISTERS.

Alumnae Shiur

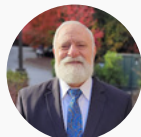
PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN
Alumnae Conference Call Shiur
AND CHIZUK AS A Z'CHUS FOR A
REFUAH SHLEIMA FOR
MIRIAM AIDEL BAS SARAH MALKA.
WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE

Mrs. Aliza Polstein
(Cohen) as a refuah shleima for
Reuven Gershon Ben Shaina. Mr. Rick Halpern
SPEAKING THIS SUNDAY,
MAY 26, 8 PM EST.

PHONE NUMBER: (480)660-5328,
ACCESS CODE: 993772

SUPPORT TEMIMA: SPONSOR A DAY OF LEARNING

Enhance your Simcha or dedication when you sponsor a Temima Day Of Learning. This program gives you the opportunity to support Temima and honor or commemorate your loved one.



From the Desk of Rabbi Avraham Shapiro

This week's Parsha BeHar begins by telling us that the laws of the Sabbatical year were given on Har Sinai when the Torah was given to B'nai Yisrael. Our Sages ask the obvious question, "Why does the Torah single out this Mitzvah and tell us it was said from on high? Weren't all the Mitzvos given at Sinai?"

Chazal's famous answer to this question is, "Just as all the details of the Mitzvah of the Sabbatical Year were written in the Torah and given at Sinai, so too all of the 613 Mitzvos in the Torah were given with all their details at Har Sinai."

According to many commentators, the reason for not working one's field during the Sabbatical year is to allow the land to rest and replenish itself. Abarbanel, however, explains that every seventh year we are commanded to refrain from working the land so that we can take a break from the pressures and obligations of making a living.

While we would all agree that we must be responsible and provide for ourselves and our families, there are times when our careers can take over our lives. The Abarbanel teaches that the Sabbatical year comes to remind us and help us keep things in perspective. Amassing wealth is not the purpose for which we were put on earth.

The Sabbatical year affords us an amazing opportunity. Virtually the entire community is taking a year off. We let our fields lay fallow and are permitted to take produce from any field or orchard. This allows us to shift focus and concentrate on our Avodas HaShem, our performance of Mitzvos, and our connection to HaShem.

Moreover, Abarbanel teaches us that the Jubilee which comes every half-century also reminds us that we need to pause and evaluate ourselves on an even deeper level. It is a time to reflect on all of one's life accomplishments and make sure our life has meaning and is not simply filled with the pursuit of material pleasures and security.

In many ways, Abarbanel's explanation for the Sabbatical year is the same as a reason one might give for having Shabbos every week - a reality check to make sure HaShem is the focus of our lives.

Perhaps the reason the Torah chose to highlight that the Mitzvah of the Sabbatical Year was given at Har Sinai is because it symbolizes the purpose of all Mitzvos. Essentially, when we perform a Mitzvah we should be aware that we are fulfilling the will of HaShem and bringing true meaning to our existence.

In a bit over two weeks we will be celebrating Shavuot when we commemorate the giving of the Torah. Our tradition teaches us that at that moment the entire Jewish People was unified, כאיש אחד בלב. Our nation was completely united socially and spiritually in its pursuit and readiness to serve HaShem.

According to Abarbanel, one could say that the Sabbatical year's focus is to help us recreate the focus that enveloped Am Yisrael as they were about to receive the Torah.

Good Shabbos to All!

Rabbi Avraham Shapiro

This Week at a Glance:

12TH GRADE KITAH K VISIT

Today, our 12th grade visited Morah Dena's Kitah K class. As they come to the end of their high school experience, they've come full circle to where it all began.



RABBI ARYEH KERZNER

We were privileged to hear from Rabbi Aryeh Kerzner, uncle of Ahuva and Tehilla, today. He so powerfully explained how we can tap into the power of Lag Ba'Omer through understanding what true Chessed is.



IVRIT ROOM PRESENTATIONS

The Ivrit students have been working on creating diagrams and naming the different parts of their rooms.



SIYUMIM WITH MRS. FOXBRUNNER

Mazal Tov to all of Mrs. Foxbrunner's classes on celebrating Siyumim! The 10th grade all dressed up for the beauty pageant as they celebrated the culmination of learning Megillas Esther.



8TH GRADE PLACEMENT TESTS

The 8th grade students came to take placement tests this week. They were welcomed so warmly by rising seniors! We look forward to having you in our school next year, rising 9th grade!

